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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of: |) | Art Unit: 1642 |
| |) | |
| BARKAN et al |) | Examiner: K. Canella |
| |) | |
| Appln. No. 09/403,897 |) | Washington, D.C. |
| |) | |
| Filed: February 22, 2000 |) | July 30, 2001 |
| |) | |
| For: LEPTIN AS AN INHIBITOR OF |) | Atty.Docket: BARKAN=2 |
| TUMOR CELL PROLIFERATION |) | |

RESPONSE

4/26/98
Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The present communication is responsive to the official action of February 28, 2001. Claims 2-9 and 28-39 presently appear in this case. No claims have been allowed, although it is noted that none of the claims have been rejected over prior art. The official action of February 28, 2001, has now been carefully studied. Reconsideration and allowance are hereby respectfully urged.

Briefly, the present invention relates to a method for treating tumors in mammals or for inhibiting tumor cell proliferation in mammals by administering to a mammal in need thereof an effective amount of leptin or a mutein, fragment, or fusion protein thereof, or a leptin receptor agonist which has the ability to block cell proliferation.